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In a letter sent to Clinton on Tuesday, **the US Commission on International Religious Freedom** said that the Islamic Republic must be held to account “for its deplorable human rights record, including egregious violations of religious freedom.”

The group noted that American officials raised some human rights issues on the sidelines of nuclear negotiations on 1 October in Geneva between Iran and six world powers, but that the concerns mainly dealt with detained Americans in Iran.

“Human rights and religious freedom concerns, beyond the status of American detainees, must be an integral part of the ongoing talks,” the letter read.